

March 24, 1982

Dear Bill:

Thank you for your letter of March 20.

As you know, the President's upcoming trip to Europe presents important opportunities to add momentum to the Administration's quest for international stability and economic prosperity. We appreciate your favorable comments on the specific recommendations we have put forward in that context.

Warm regards.

Sincerely,

Charles Z. Wick

The Honorable
Judge William P. Clark, Jr.
Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs
The White House

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON


March 20, 1982

Dear Charlie:

Just a quick note to acknowledge with thanks the two messages you recently sent to the President on the heels of your trip to Europe - the letter of March 1 and the public diplomacy memo of March 3 - and to assure you that the President has been briefed on both.

I also want you to know that I fully agree with the thrust underlying each of those messages, namely, the need to ensure a "single voice" when addressing foreign policy matters with overseas audiences and the opportunity which the President's June travel gives us to strengthen the effectiveness of that voice. I particularly appreciate the three specific proposals you have put forward in that context; I have instructed the NSC staff to make sure that these are folded into the process as we move forward with our preparations for the President's trip.

Sincerely,



William P. Clark

The Honorable Charles Z. Wick
Director
International Communication Agency
Washington, D.C. 20547

THE WHITE HOUSE

The Honorable Charles Z. Wick
Director
International Communication Agency
Washington, D. C. 20547

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Dear Mr. President:

As you know, I have just returned with a number of USIA colleagues from a three-week, eight-nation tour of Western Europe.

We discerned cracks and fissures in the Atlantic alliance that are worrisome.

I want to bring one problem to your immediate attention: In every country we visited, we found high officials and ordinary citizens troubled by what they perceived to be contradictory and conflicting foreign policy statements by leaders in the Reagan Administration, especially in the areas of arms control and defense policy.

Nobody suggests that we should adopt the mindless monotony of Moscow's official pronouncements. But our friends urge that when speaking to a foreign audience, the Reagan Administration should "speak with a single voice." When we do issue conflicting signals, this confuses our friends and gives grist to our enemies.

We need to articulate more clearly America's earnest desire for peace and stability in the world, stressing that it is necessary to pursue this campaign from a basis of military strength.

It seems to me, Mr. President, that we need to strengthen our coordinating mechanism for statements from government leaders on matters relating to foreign policy. We should decide what impact we want to make over a period of months, agree upon what headlines we want to produce in which countries, and then coordinate who should address which audience, at what particular time, making which particular points.

I hope these early thoughts are helpful. I shall be sending you some additional impressions shortly.

Sincerely,

Charles E. Wick
Director

The President
The White House

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